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6 **IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
7 **FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA**  
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10  
11 Eduardo Ramirez-Garcia,  
12 Plaintiff,

No. CV 12-2678-PHX-RCB (JFM)

13 vs.

**ORDER**

14 Charles L. Ryan, et al.,  
15 Defendants.  
16

17 Plaintiff Eduardo Ramirez-Garcia, who is confined in the Arizona State Prison  
18 Complex-Florence, filed a *pro se* civil rights Complaint pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983  
19 (Doc. 1) and an Application to Proceed *In Forma Pauperis*. In a February 28, 2013  
20 Order, the Court denied the Application to Proceed with leave to amend. On March 8,  
21 2013, Plaintiff filed a new Application to Proceed *In Forma Pauperis* (Doc. 6).

22 On June 13, 2013, Plaintiff filed a Motion for Ruling/Status requesting a ruling on  
23 his Application to Proceed and information regarding the status of this case. The Court  
24 will grant the Motion and the Application to Proceed and will dismiss the Complaint with  
25 leave to amend.

26 **I. Application to Proceed *In Forma Pauperis* and Filing Fee**

27 Plaintiff's Application to Proceed *In Forma Pauperis* will be granted. 28 U.S.C.  
28 § 1915(a). Plaintiff must pay the statutory filing fee of \$350.00. 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b)(1).

1 The Court will assess an initial partial filing fee of \$0.23. The remainder of the fee will  
 2 be collected monthly in payments of 20% of the previous month's income each time the  
 3 amount in the account exceeds \$10.00. 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b)(2). The Court will enter a  
 4 separate Order requiring the appropriate government agency to collect and forward the  
 5 fees according to the statutory formula.

## 6 **II. Statutory Screening of Prisoner Complaints**

7 The Court is required to screen complaints brought by prisoners seeking relief  
 8 against a governmental entity or an officer or an employee of a governmental entity. 28  
 9 U.S.C. § 1915A(a). The Court must dismiss a complaint or portion thereof if a plaintiff  
 10 has raised claims that are legally frivolous or malicious, that fail to state a claim upon  
 11 which relief may be granted, or that seek monetary relief from a defendant who is  
 12 immune from such relief. 28 U.S.C. § 1915A(b)(1), (2).

13 A pleading must contain a "short and plain statement of the claim *showing* that the  
 14 pleader is entitled to relief." Fed. R. Civ. P. 8(a)(2) (emphasis added). While Rule 8  
 15 does not demand detailed factual allegations, "it demands more than an unadorned, the-  
 16 defendant-unlawfully-harmed-me accusation." *Ashcroft v. Iqbal*, 556 U.S. 662, 678  
 17 (2009). "Threadbare recitals of the elements of a cause of action, supported by mere  
 18 conclusory statements, do not suffice." *Id.*

19 "[A] complaint must contain sufficient factual matter, accepted as true, to 'state a  
 20 claim to relief that is plausible on its face.'" *Id.* (quoting *Bell Atlantic Corp. v. Twombly*,  
 21 550 U.S. 544, 570 (2007)). A claim is plausible "when the plaintiff pleads factual  
 22 content that allows the court to draw the reasonable inference that the defendant is liable  
 23 for the misconduct alleged." *Id.* "Determining whether a complaint states a plausible  
 24 claim for relief [is] . . . a context-specific task that requires the reviewing court to draw  
 25 on its judicial experience and common sense." *Id.* at 679. Thus, although a plaintiff's  
 26 specific factual allegations may be consistent with a constitutional claim, a court must  
 27 assess whether there are other "more likely explanations" for a defendant's conduct. *Id.*  
 28 at 681.

1 But as the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit has instructed,  
 2 courts must “continue to construe *pro se* filings liberally.” *Hebbe v. Pliler*, 627 F.3d 338,  
 3 342 (9th Cir. 2010). A “complaint [filed by a *pro se* prisoner] ‘must be held to less  
 4 stringent standards than formal pleadings drafted by lawyers.’” *Id.* (quoting *Erickson v.*  
 5 *Pardus*, 551 U.S. 89, 94 (2007) (*per curiam*)).

6 If the Court determines that a pleading could be cured by the allegation of other  
 7 facts, a *pro se* litigant is entitled to an opportunity to amend a complaint before dismissal  
 8 of the action. *See Lopez v. Smith*, 203 F.3d 1122, 1127-29 (9th Cir. 2000) (*en banc*). The  
 9 Court should not, however, advise the litigant how to cure the defects. This type of  
 10 advice “would undermine district judges’ role as impartial decisionmakers.” *Pliler v.*  
 11 *Ford*, 542 U.S. 225, 231 (2004); *see also Lopez*, 203 F.3d at 1131 n.13 (declining to  
 12 decide whether the court was required to inform a litigant of deficiencies). The Court  
 13 will dismiss Plaintiff’s Complaint for failure to state a claim, but because the Complaint  
 14 may possibly be saved by amendment, will dismiss the Complaint with leave to amend.

### 15 **III. Complaint**

16 Plaintiff names the following Defendants in the Complaint: Arizona Department  
 17 of Corrections Director Charles L. Ryan, Facility Health Administrator Dennis Kendall,  
 18 Wexford, and the Arizona Department of Corrections.

19 Plaintiff raises three claims for relief. In Count One, Plaintiff alleges that his  
 20 Eighth Amendment rights were violated when he received inadequate medical care while  
 21 suffering an aneurysm. Plaintiff claims that on June 1, 2011, he experienced a severe  
 22 headache and vomiting. Plaintiff was taken to the health unit of his facility where he was  
 23 seen by a nurse who told correctional officers that Plaintiff was drunk (Plaintiff was not  
 24 drunk) and gave Plaintiff ibuprofen and ice. Plaintiff was then taken back to his cell.  
 25 Later that night, the pain intensified to the extent that Plaintiff could not stand. Plaintiff  
 26 was taken to the medical unit via gurney and was subsequently hospitalized. Plaintiff  
 27 remained in the hospital for four months.  
 28

1 In Count Two, Plaintiff claims that his Eighth and Fourteenth Amendment rights  
2 were violated when medical staff failed to give him prescribed medication and failed to  
3 follow the instructions of the doctor who operated on Plaintiff.

4 In Count Three, Plaintiff alleges that the Freedom of Information Act was violated  
5 when medical staff refused to provide Plaintiff with his medical records after he  
6 requested them.

7 Plaintiff seeks injunctive relief and money damages.

#### 8 **IV. Failure to State a Claim**

##### 9 **A. Defendants Ryan, Kendall, and Wexford**

10 To state a valid claim under § 1983, plaintiffs must allege that they suffered a  
11 specific injury as a result of specific conduct of a defendant and show an affirmative link  
12 between the injury and the conduct of that defendant. *See Rizzo v. Goode*, 423 U.S. 362,  
13 371-72, 377 (1976). There is no *respondeat superior* liability under § 1983, and  
14 therefore, a defendant's position as the supervisor of persons who allegedly violated  
15 Plaintiff's constitutional rights does not impose liability. *Monell v. New York City*  
16 *Department of Social Services*, 436 U.S. 658, 691-92 (1978); *Hamilton v. Endell*, 981  
17 F.2d 1062, 1067 (9th Cir. 1992); *Taylor v. List*, 880 F.2d 1040, 1045 (9th Cir. 1989).  
18 "Because vicarious liability is inapplicable to *Bivens* and § 1983 suits, a plaintiff must  
19 plead that each Government-official defendant, through the official's own individual  
20 actions, has violated the Constitution." *Iqbal*, 129 S. Ct. at 1948.

21 Plaintiff has not alleged that Defendants Ryan, Kendall, or Wexford personally  
22 participated in a deprivation of Plaintiff's constitutional rights, were aware of a  
23 deprivation and failed to act, or formed policies that resulted in Plaintiff's injuries.  
24 Further, Plaintiff's claim that Defendant Ryan denied or failed to appropriately respond  
25 to his grievances fails to state a claim. *See Shehee v. Luttrell*, 199 F.3d 295, 300 (6th Cir.  
26 1999) (defendants did not commit constitutional violations when they denied  
27 administrative grievances, failed to intervene on plaintiff's behalf, and failed to remedy  
28 allegedly unconstitutional behavior).

1           Accordingly, Plaintiff has failed to state a claim against Defendants Ryan,  
2 Kendall, and Wexford.

3           ...

#### 4           **B. Defendant Arizona Department of Corrections**

5           The Arizona Department of Corrections is not a proper Defendant. Under the  
6 Eleventh Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, a state or state agency may  
7 not be sued in federal court without its consent. *Pennhurst State Sch. & Hosp. v.*  
8 *Halderman*, 465 U.S. 89, 100 (1984); *Taylor v. List*, 880 F.2d 1040, 1045 (9th Cir. 1989).  
9 Furthermore, “a state is not a ‘person’ for purposes of section 1983. Likewise ‘arms of  
10 the State’ such as the Arizona Department of Corrections are not ‘persons’ under section  
11 1983.” *Gilbreath v. Cutter Biological, Inc.*, 931 F.2d 1320, 1327 (9th Cir. 1991) (citation  
12 omitted). The Court will therefore dismiss Defendant Arizona Department of  
13 Corrections.

#### 14           **C. Medical Claims**

15           Not every claim by a prisoner relating to inadequate medical treatment states a  
16 violation of the Eighth or Fourteenth Amendment. To state a § 1983 medical claim, a  
17 plaintiff must show that the defendants acted with “deliberate indifference to serious  
18 medical needs.” *Jett v. Penner*, 439 F.3d 1091, 1096 (9th Cir. 2006) (quoting *Estelle v.*  
19 *Gamble*, 429 U.S. 97, 104 (1976)). A plaintiff must show (1) a “serious medical need”  
20 by demonstrating that failure to treat the condition could result in further significant  
21 injury or the unnecessary and wanton infliction of pain and (2) the defendant’s response  
22 was deliberately indifferent. *Jett*, 439 F.3d at 1096 (quotations omitted).

23           “Deliberate indifference is a high legal standard.” *Toguchi v. Chung*, 391 F.3d  
24 1051, 1060 (9th Cir. 2004). To act with deliberate indifference, a prison official must  
25 both know of and disregard an excessive risk to inmate health; “the official must both be  
26 aware of facts from which the inference could be drawn that a substantial risk of serious  
27 harm exists, and he must also draw the inference.” *Farmer v. Brennan*, 511 U.S. 825,  
28 837 (1994). Deliberate indifference in the medical context may be shown by a

1 purposeful act or failure to respond to a prisoner's pain or possible medical need and  
 2 harm caused by the indifference. *Jett*, 439 F.3d at 1096. Deliberate indifference may  
 3 also be shown when a prison official intentionally denies, delays, or interferes with  
 4 medical treatment or by the way prison doctors respond to the prisoner's medical needs.  
 5 *Estelle*, 429 U.S. at 104-05; *Jett*, 439 F.3d at 1096.

6 Deliberate indifference is a higher standard than negligence or lack of ordinary  
 7 due care for the prisoner's safety. *Farmer*, 511 U.S. at 835. "Neither negligence nor  
 8 gross negligence will constitute deliberate indifference." *Clement v. California Dep't of*  
 9 *Corrections*, 220 F. Supp. 2d 1098, 1105 (N.D. Cal. 2002); *see also Broughton v. Cutter*  
 10 *Labs.*, 622 F.2d 458, 460 (9th Cir. 1980) (mere claims of "indifference," "negligence," or  
 11 "medical malpractice" do not support a claim under § 1983). "A difference of opinion  
 12 does not amount to deliberate indifference to [a plaintiff's] serious medical needs."  
 13 *Sanchez v. Vild*, 891 F.2d 240, 242 (9th Cir. 1989). A mere delay in medical care,  
 14 without more, is insufficient to state a claim against prison officials for deliberate  
 15 indifference. *See Shapley v. Nevada Bd. of State Prison Comm'rs*, 766 F.2d 404, 407  
 16 (9th Cir. 1985). The indifference must be substantial. The action must rise to a level of  
 17 "unnecessary and wanton infliction of pain." *Estelle*, 429 U.S. at 105.

18 As noted above, Plaintiff has failed to adequately link his injuries to the actions or  
 19 inactions of a named Defendants. Even if Plaintiff had identified and named as  
 20 Defendants the medical staff responsible for providing him with allegedly inadequate  
 21 medical care, his factual allegations fail to state an Eighth Amendment claim. Plaintiff  
 22 has not alleged facts showing that a particular defendant was aware of Plaintiff's serious  
 23 medical need and failed to act appropriately or that the delay in medical treatment  
 24 resulted in further injury.

## 25 **V. Leave to Amend**

26 For the foregoing reasons, Plaintiff's Complaint will be dismissed for failure to  
 27 state a claim upon which relief may be granted. Within 30 days, Plaintiff may submit a  
 28 first amended complaint to cure the deficiencies outlined above. The Clerk of Court will

1 mail Plaintiff a court-approved form to use for filing a first amended complaint. If  
2 Plaintiff fails to use the court-approved form, the Court may strike the amended  
3 complaint and dismiss this action without further notice to Plaintiff.

4 If Plaintiff files an amended complaint, Plaintiff must write short, plain statements  
5 telling the Court: (1) the constitutional right Plaintiff believes was violated; (2) the name  
6 of the Defendant who violated the right; (3) exactly what that Defendant did or failed to  
7 do; (4) how the action or inaction of that Defendant is connected to the violation of  
8 Plaintiff's constitutional right; and (5) what specific injury Plaintiff suffered because of  
9 that Defendant's conduct. *See Rizzo*, 423 U.S. at 371-72, 377.

10 Plaintiff must repeat this process for each person he names as a Defendant. If  
11 Plaintiff fails to affirmatively link the conduct of each named Defendant with the specific  
12 injury suffered by Plaintiff, the allegations against that Defendant will be dismissed for  
13 failure to state a claim. **Conclusory allegations that a Defendant or group of**  
14 **Defendants have violated a constitutional right are not acceptable and will be**  
15 **dismissed.**

16 Plaintiff must clearly designate on the face of the document that it is the "First  
17 Amended Complaint." The first amended complaint must be retyped or rewritten in its  
18 entirety on the court-approved form and may not incorporate any part of the original  
19 Complaint by reference. Plaintiff may include only one claim per count.

20 A first amended complaint supersedes the original complaint. *Ferdik v. Bonzelet*,  
21 963 F.2d 1258, 1262 (9th Cir. 1992); *Hal Roach Studios v. Richard Feiner & Co.*, 896  
22 F.2d 1542, 1546 (9th Cir. 1990). After amendment, the Court will treat an original  
23 complaint as nonexistent. *Ferdik*, 963 F.2d at 1262. Any cause of action that was raised  
24 in the original complaint is waived if it is not raised in a first amended complaint. *King v.*  
25 *Atiyeh*, 814 F.2d 565, 567 (9th Cir. 1987).

26 . . .  
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1 **VI. Warnings**

2 **A. Release**

3 Plaintiff must pay the unpaid balance of the filing fee within 120 days of his  
4 release. Also, within 30 days of his release, he must either (1) notify the Court that he  
5 intends to pay the balance or (2) show good cause, in writing, why he cannot. Failure to  
6 comply may result in dismissal of this action.

7 **B. Address Changes**

8 Plaintiff must file and serve a notice of a change of address in accordance with  
9 Rule 83.3(d) of the Local Rules of Civil Procedure. Plaintiff must not include a motion  
10 for other relief with a notice of change of address. Failure to comply may result in  
11 dismissal of this action.

12 **C. Copies**

13 Plaintiff must submit an additional copy of every filing for use by the Court. *See*  
14 LRCiv 5.4. Failure to comply may result in the filing being stricken without further  
15 notice to Plaintiff.

16 **D. Possible “Strike”**

17 Because the Complaint has been dismissed for failure to state a claim, if Plaintiff  
18 fails to file an amended complaint correcting the deficiencies identified in this Order, the  
19 dismissal may count as a “strike” under the “3-strikes” provision of 28 U.S.C. § 1915(g).  
20 Under the 3-strikes provision, a prisoner may not bring a civil action or appeal a civil  
21 judgment *in forma pauperis* under 28 U.S.C. § 1915 “if the prisoner has, on 3 or more  
22 prior occasions, while incarcerated or detained in any facility, brought an action or appeal  
23 in a court of the United States that was dismissed on the grounds that it is frivolous,  
24 malicious, or fails to state a claim upon which relief may be granted, unless the prisoner  
25 is under imminent danger of serious physical injury.” 28 U.S.C. § 1915(g).

26 **E. Possible Dismissal**

27 If Plaintiff fails to timely comply with every provision of this Order, including  
28 these warnings, the Court may dismiss this action without further notice. *See Ferdik*, 963



1 F.2d at 1260-61 (a district court may dismiss an action for failure to comply with any  
2 order of the Court).

3 **IT IS ORDERED:**

4 (1) Plaintiff's Application to Proceed *In Forma Pauperis* (Doc. 6) is **granted**.

5 (2) As required by the accompanying Order to the appropriate government  
6 agency, Plaintiff must pay the \$350.00 filing fee and is assessed an initial partial filing  
7 fee of \$0.23.

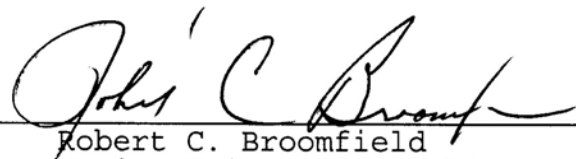
8 (3) Plaintiff's June 13, 2013 Motion for Ruling/Status (Doc. 8) is **granted**.

9 (4) The Complaint (Doc. 1) is **dismissed** for failure to state a claim. Plaintiff  
10 has **30 days** from the date this Order is filed to file a first amended complaint in  
11 compliance with this Order.

12 (5) If Plaintiff fails to file an amended complaint within 30 days, the Clerk of  
13 Court must, without further notice, enter a judgment of dismissal of this action with  
14 prejudice that states that the dismissal may count as a "strike" under 28 U.S.C. § 1915(g).

15 (6) The Clerk of Court must mail Plaintiff a court-approved form for filing a  
16 civil rights complaint by a prisoner.

17 DATED this 19th day of June, 2013.

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21 Robert C. Broomfield  
22 Senior United States District Judge  
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**Instructions for a Prisoner Filing a Civil Rights Complaint  
in the United States District Court for the District of Arizona**

1. Who May Use This Form. The civil rights complaint form is designed to help incarcerated persons prepare a complaint seeking relief for a violation of their federal civil rights. These complaints typically concern, but are not limited to, conditions of confinement. **This form should not be used to challenge your conviction or sentence.** If you want to challenge a state conviction or sentence, you should file a petition under 28 U.S.C. § 2254 for a writ of habeas corpus by a person in state custody. If you want to challenge a federal conviction or sentence, you should file a motion under 28 U.S.C. § 2255 to vacate sentence in the federal court that entered the judgment.
2. The Form. **Local Rule of Civil Procedure (LRCiv) 3.4(a) provides that complaints by incarcerated persons must be filed on the court-approved form.** The form must be typed or neatly handwritten. The form must be completely filled in to the extent applicable. All questions must be answered clearly and concisely in the appropriate space on the form. If needed, you may attach additional pages, **but no more than fifteen additional pages**, of standard letter-sized paper. You must identify which part of the complaint is being continued and number all pages. If you do not fill out the form properly, you will be asked to submit additional or corrected information, which may delay the processing of your action. You do not need to cite law.
3. Your Signature. You must tell the truth and sign the form. If you make a false statement of a material fact, you may be prosecuted for perjury.
4. The Filing Fee. The filing fee for this action is \$350.00. If you are unable to immediately pay the filing fee, you may request leave to proceed *in forma pauperis*. Please review the “Information for Prisoners Seeking Leave to Proceed with a (Non-Habeas) Civil Action in Federal Court *In Forma Pauperis* Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915” for additional instructions.
5. Original and Judge’s Copy. You must send an **original plus one copy** of your complaint and of any other documents submitted to the Court. You must send one additional copy to the Court if you wish to have a file-stamped copy of the document returned to you. All copies must be identical to the original. Copies may be legibly handwritten.
6. Where to File. You should file your complaint in the division **where you were confined when your rights were allegedly violated.** See LRCiv 5.1(a) and 77.1(a). If you were confined in Maricopa, Pinal, Yuma, La Paz, or Gila County, file in the Phoenix Division. If you were confined in Apache, Navajo, Coconino, Mohave, or Yavapai County, file in the Prescott Division. If you were confined in Pima, Cochise, Santa Cruz, Graham, or Greenlee County, file in the Tucson Division. **Mail the original and one copy of the complaint with the \$350 filing fee or the application to proceed *in forma pauperis* to:**

Phoenix & Prescott Divisions:  
U.S. District Court Clerk  
U.S. Courthouse, Suite 130  
401 West Washington Street, SPC 10  
Phoenix, Arizona 85003-2119

**OR**

Tucson Division:  
U.S. District Court Clerk  
U.S. Courthouse, Suite 1500  
405 West Congress Street  
Tucson, Arizona 85701-5010

7. Change of Address. You must immediately notify the Court and the defendants in writing of any change in your mailing address. **Failure to notify the Court of any change in your mailing address may result in the dismissal of your case.**

8. Certificate of Service. You must furnish the defendants with a copy of any document you submit to the Court (except the initial complaint and application to proceed *in forma pauperis*). Each original document (except the initial complaint and application to proceed *in forma pauperis*) must include a certificate of service on the last page of the document stating the date a copy of the document was mailed to the defendants and the address to which it was mailed. See Fed. R. Civ. P. 5(a), (d). Any document received by the Court that does not include a certificate of service may be stricken. A certificate of service should be in the following form:

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing document was mailed  
this \_\_\_\_\_ (month, day, year) to:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Attorney for Defendant(s)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

9. Amended Complaint. If you need to change any of the information in the initial complaint, you must file an amended complaint. The amended complaint must be written on the court-approved civil rights complaint form. You may file one amended complaint without leave (permission) of Court before any defendant has answered your original complaint. See Fed. R. Civ. P. 15(a). After any defendant has filed an answer, you must file a motion for leave to amend and lodge (submit) a proposed amended complaint. LRCiv 15.1. In addition, an amended complaint may not incorporate by reference any part of your prior complaint. LRCiv 15.1(a)(2). **Any allegations or defendants not included in the amended complaint are considered dismissed.** All amended complaints are subject to screening under the Prison Litigation Reform Act; screening your amendment will take additional processing time.

10. Exhibits. You should not submit exhibits with the complaint or amended complaint. Instead, the relevant information should be paraphrased. You should keep the exhibits to use to support or oppose a motion to dismiss, a motion for summary judgment, or at trial.

11. Letters and Motions. It is generally inappropriate to write a letter to any judge or the staff of any judge. The only appropriate way to communicate with the Court is by filing a written pleading or motion.

12. Completing the Civil Rights Complaint Form.

**HEADING:**

1. Your Name. Print your name, prison or inmate number, and institutional mailing address on the lines provided.
2. Defendants. If there are **four or fewer** defendants, print the name of each. If you name **more than four** defendants, print the name of the first defendant on the first line, write the words “and others” on the second line, and attach an additional page listing the names of **all** of the defendants. Insert the additional page after page 1 and number it “1-A” at the bottom.
3. Jury Demand. If you want a jury trial, you must write “JURY TRIAL DEMANDED” in the space below “CIVIL RIGHTS COMPLAINT BY A PRISONER.” Failure to do so may result in the loss of the right to a jury trial. A jury trial is not available if you are seeking only injunctive relief.

**Part A. JURISDICTION:**

1. Nature of Suit. Mark whether you are filing the complaint pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983 for state, county, or city defendants; “Bivens v. Six Unknown Federal Narcotics Agents” for federal defendants; or “other.” If you mark “other,” identify the source of that authority.
2. Location. Identify the institution and city where the alleged violation of your rights occurred.
3. Defendants. Print all of the requested information about each of the defendants in the spaces provided. If you are naming more than four defendants, you must provide the necessary information about each additional defendant on separate pages labeled “2-A,” “2-B,” etc., at the bottom. Insert the additional page(s) immediately behind page 2.

**Part B. PREVIOUS LAWSUITS:**

You must identify any other lawsuit you have filed in either state or federal court while you were a prisoner. Print all of the requested information about each lawsuit in the spaces provided. If you have filed more than three lawsuits, you must provide the necessary information about each additional lawsuit on a separate page. Label the page(s) as “2-A,” “2-B,” etc., at the bottom of the page and insert the additional page(s) immediately behind page 2.

**Part C. CAUSE OF ACTION:**

You must identify what rights each defendant violated. The form provides space to allege three separate counts (**one violation per count**). If you are alleging more than three counts, you must provide the necessary information about each additional count on a separate page. Number the additional pages “5-A,” “5-B,” etc., and insert them immediately behind page 5. Remember that you are limited to a total of fifteen additional pages.

1. **Counts.** You must identify which civil right was violated. **You may allege the violation of only one civil right per count.**
2. **Issue Involved.** Check the box that most closely identifies the issue involved in your claim. **You may check only one box per count.** If you check the box marked “Other,” you must identify the specific issue involved.
3. **Supporting Facts.** After you have identified which civil right was violated, you must state the supporting facts. Be as specific as possible. You must state what each individual defendant did to violate your rights. If there is more than one defendant, you must identify which defendant did what act. You also should state the date(s) on which the act(s) occurred, if possible.
4. **Injury.** State precisely how you were injured by the alleged violation of your rights.
5. **Administrative Remedies.** You must exhaust any available administrative remedies before you file a civil rights complaint. See 42 U.S.C. § 1997e. Consequently, you should disclose whether you have exhausted the inmate grievance procedures or administrative appeals for each count in your complaint. If the grievance procedures were not available for any of your counts, fully explain why on the lines provided.

**Part D. REQUEST FOR RELIEF:**

Print the relief you are seeking in the space provided.

**SIGNATURE:**

You must sign your name and print the date you signed the complaint. Failure to sign the complaint will delay the processing of your action. Unless you are an attorney, you may not bring an action on behalf of anyone but yourself.

**FINAL NOTE**

You should follow these instructions carefully. Failure to do so may result in your complaint being stricken or dismissed. All questions must be answered concisely in the proper space on the form. If you need more space, you may attach no more than fifteen additional pages. But the form must be completely filled in to the extent applicable. If you attach additional pages, be sure to identify which section of the complaint is being continued and number the pages.



## B. DEFENDANTS

1. Name of first Defendant: \_\_\_\_\_. The first Defendant is employed as:  
\_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_.  
(Position and Title) (Institution)
2. Name of second Defendant: \_\_\_\_\_. The second Defendant is employed as:  
\_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_.  
(Position and Title) (Institution)
3. Name of third Defendant: \_\_\_\_\_. The third Defendant is employed as:  
\_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_.  
(Position and Title) (Institution)
4. Name of fourth Defendant: \_\_\_\_\_. The fourth Defendant is employed as:  
\_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_.  
(Position and Title) (Institution)

If you name more than four Defendants, answer the questions listed above for each additional Defendant on a separate page.

## C. PREVIOUS LAWSUITS

1. Have you filed any other lawsuits while you were a prisoner? ☐ Yes ☐ No
2. If yes, how many lawsuits have you filed? \_\_\_\_\_. Describe the previous lawsuits:
  - a. First prior lawsuit:
    1. Parties: \_\_\_\_\_ v. \_\_\_\_\_
    2. Court and case number: \_\_\_\_\_
    3. Result: (Was the case dismissed? Was it appealed? Is it still pending?) \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Second prior lawsuit:
    1. Parties: \_\_\_\_\_ v. \_\_\_\_\_
    2. Court and case number: \_\_\_\_\_
    3. Result: (Was the case dismissed? Was it appealed? Is it still pending?) \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. Third prior lawsuit:
    1. Parties: \_\_\_\_\_ v. \_\_\_\_\_
    2. Court and case number: \_\_\_\_\_
    3. Result: (Was the case dismissed? Was it appealed? Is it still pending?) \_\_\_\_\_

If you filed more than three lawsuits, answer the questions listed above for each additional lawsuit on a separate page.







### COUNT III

1. State the constitutional or other federal civil right that was violated: \_\_\_\_\_.

2. **Count III.** Identify the issue involved. Check **only one**. State additional issues in separate counts.  
☐ Basic necessities                      ☐ Mail                      ☐ Access to the court                      ☐ Medical care  
☐ Disciplinary proceedings            ☐ Property                      ☐ Exercise of religion                      ☐ Retaliation  
☐ Excessive force by an officer       ☐ Threat to safety       ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

3. **Supporting Facts.** State as briefly as possible the FACTS supporting Count III. Describe exactly what **each Defendant** did or did not do that violated your rights. State the facts clearly in your own words without citing legal authority or arguments.  
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4. **Injury.** State how you were injured by the actions or inactions of the Defendant(s).  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

5. **Administrative Remedies.**

  - a. Are there any administrative remedies (grievance procedures or administrative appeals) available at your institution? ☐ Yes     ☐ No
  - b. Did you submit a request for administrative relief on Count III? ☐ Yes     ☐ No
  - c. Did you appeal your request for relief on Count III to the highest level? ☐ Yes     ☐ No
  - d. If you did not submit or appeal a request for administrative relief at any level, briefly explain why you did not. \_\_\_\_\_

**If you assert more than three Counts, answer the questions listed above for each additional Count on a separate page.**

**E. REQUEST FOR RELIEF**

State the relief you are seeking:

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I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE OF PLAINTIFF

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Name and title of paralegal, legal assistant, or  
other person who helped prepare this complaint)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of attorney, if any)

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\_\_\_\_\_  
(Attorney's address & telephone number)

**ADDITIONAL PAGES**

All questions must be answered concisely in the proper space on the form. If you need more space, you may attach no more than fifteen additional pages. But the form must be completely filled in to the extent applicable. If you attach additional pages, be sure to identify which section of the complaint is being continued and number all pages.